

Claims:*a* What is claimed is:

1. Method for reducing the power consumption of a wireless terminal (MT1-MT4) communicating with an access point (AP1, AP2), in which
 5 method the wireless terminal (MT1-MT4) is set to dormancy, an in-operation message (408) is transmitted at intervals from the wireless terminal (MT1-MT4) to the access point (AP1, AP2), and for sending the in-operation message (408), the wireless terminal is set in an active state, **characterized** in that in the method, the wireless terminal is
 10 returned to dormancy substantially immediately after the transmission of the in-operation message (408).

15 2. The method according to claim 1, **characterized** in that the in-operation message (408) used is a message to which no acknowledgement message is transmitted from the access point (AP1, AP2).

Sub A 20 3. The method according to claim 1 or 2, **characterized** in that the in-operation message (408) used is a resource request (RR), in which the resource requirement is set as a value for which no resource allocation is performed for the wireless terminal (MT1-MT4).

25 4. The method according to claim 1, **characterized** in that the in-operation message (408) used is a message to which an acknowledgement message is transmitted from the access point (AP1, AP2), and that the wireless terminal (MT1-MT4) leaves said acknowledgement message unreceived.

Sub B 30 5. The method according to any of the claims 1 to 4, **characterized** in that in connection with the setting to dormancy, a maximum transmission interval is selected for the in-operation messages (408), wherein the wireless terminal (MT1-MT4) shifts to the active state for transmitting the in-operation message (408) before the selected maximum interval has expired from the transmission of the previous in-operation message (408), and that the reception of in-operation messages (408)
 35 is monitored at the access point (AP1, AP2) within the maximum interval.

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